(b) if so, what precautionary measures Government think of;

(c) whether Government have any proposals to take similar precautionary measures in the case of major projects in the country; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Large storage dams in the country are presently designed as per Bureau of Indian Standards code 1893-1984 to withstand the maximum credible earthquake likely to occur in the seismic zone in which the dam is located. A number of old dams in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan have been strengthened under the World Bank aided Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project. Dam Safety Organisations have also been established by 10 State Governments, namely Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh to look after the safety of the dams.

Formulation of integrated water management policy

2701. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated or propose to formulate an integrated water management policy to deal with the problems of flood, drought, irrigation and drinking water in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The National Water Policy adopted in 1987 has recognized that water is a scarce and precious national resources to be planned, developed and conserved as such, in an integrated and environmentally sound basis. The policy envisages that water resources development projects should, as far as possible, be planned and developed as multi-purpose projects providing for irrigation, flood mitigation, hydroelectric power generation etc. Wherever possible. Provisions have also been made to make water available to water scarce areas. Water conservation, recycling and

re-use of water, preservation of the quality of environment, soil-moisture conservation, water harvesting practices, development of ground water etc. form part of the National Water Policy.

Mullapperiyar Dam

2702. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1750 given in the Rajya Sabha on 5th December, 2000 and state:

(a) whether Government are having any proposal to convene a meeting of Chief Minister of States concerned to resolve the Mullapperiyar Dam issue; and

(b) how many hectares of land will be cultivated/irrigated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The maximum area irrigated is about 74,500 hectare. The actual area irrigated from year to year depends on the availability of water for diversion in the reservoir.

Shortage of potable drinking water

2703. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been acute shortage of potable drinking water in earthquake affected areas/towns/villages/cities in the State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to supply potable drinking water to various parts of Gujarat immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Due to the deficient rainfall